

FORT SNELLING, OLD FORT AREA
Bounded by Minnehaha Park,
the Mississippi River, the
airport & Bloomington Road
(St. Paul vicinity) ~~Minneapolis Vic.~~
Hennepin & Dakota Counties
Minnesota

HABS NO. MN-77

HABS
MINN,
27-FOSNEL,
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PHOTOGRAPHS AND

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Minnesota	COUNTY Hennepin	TOWN OR VICINITY St. Paul vicinity
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) FORT SNELLING (OLD FORT AREA)		HABS NO. MN-77
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Bounded by Minnehaha Park, the Mississippi River, the airport & Bloomington Road.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1820-1824 (NHL catalog)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Fort Snelling stands as the 1st architectural and military representation of government control & civilization in the upper Mississippi wilderness. For 4 decades it was the northwest outpost for transportation, protection & commerce, making possible settlement and eventually, statehood (1858). Located on the confluence of 2 major waterways, the		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) fortification walls, vernacular structures (pioneering)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Yellow limestone taken from the nearby cliffs along the river		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) roughly diamond shaped		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE 2 original towers, 1 round & 1 hexagonal		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) various quarters, commandant's house, sutler's store, magazine, shops, commissary		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES restored and/or rebuilt beginning in 1965		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE good condition; used as a living museum		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE *controlled traffic along the Mississippi, Minnesota & Red Rivers, thereby regulating Indian migrations, trade, commerce, and settlement. The cornerstone was laid in Aug. of 1820 by Col. Josiah Snelling, for whom the fort was later named. It is one of a few such posts with substantial remains left from this period.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING IN NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Catalog of National Historic Landmarks National Register nomination, prepared by John Grossman & Paul Dybvig, Minnesota Historical Society, Nov. 1969		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION C. Lavoie		DATE Jan. 1989